

# Louis Nizer opens Jewish Book fair

By NORMA GELTNER

Attorney and author Louis Nizer opened the 27th annual Jewish Book Fair at the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit in West Bloomfield.

Nizer, a practicing attorney, has written several books. His "My Life in Court" was on the New York Times best seller list for many weeks.

He spoke to an audience of more than 1,000 people who were by turns charmed, amused, saddened and moved to applause. He regaled them with anecdotes and opinions on subjects as diverse as a lawsuit of Elizabeth Taylor's, the day of Israel's declaration of its statehood, and his opinion on the legality of pornography. He told of the powerful, the wealthy, the famous, the evil people he had met during his 50 year career.

He quoted, that "charming but terrible" mayor of New York City, Jimmy Walker, "Never let acid get into your blood—it will get you, not your enemy," and added, "Don't be like the wife who is jilted for the proverbial blond and gets so bitter that she becomes unattractive and can't marry."

He remembered when just before World War II New York Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, called him up shouting at the top of his voice. He asked Nizer, as his personal counsel if he should grant a license to the Nazis to speak in Madison Square Garden. Nizer said, "No."

LaGuardia asked how, as a liberal, he could deny for he would have to stop granting licenses to Catholics and to Jews.

Nizer replied that there was a great difference. He told the mayor it was his duty to see that the city was preserved against riots and death. Nizer explained if the Nazis had a rally in Madison Square Garden, an area in which there was a great Catholic and Jewish population, there would be riots. People would be killed and it was his duty as mayor to prevent that. The rally could be prevented by not granting the license on the basis that it would be a public nuisance.

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Since he was speaking at the Jewish Commu-

nity Center, he said he felt that he should make some remarks about the survival of Israel. The central issue is the survival of Israel as Nizer sees it is that, as Napoleon said, the Middle East is the gateway to three continents. And there lies the content of the world war.

And that, aside from U. S. fondness for the country, is the central issue. It was even before all that oil was discovered in the Middle East, Nizer said. It is parallel with U.S. interests to keep control over the Middle East and parallel with Russia's interests to keep control, he added.

Nizer is opposed to hard core pornography on the grounds that it doesn't reach the level of speech and is therefore not protected by the

First Amendment which guarantees freedom of speech.

He concluded his talk with a prophecy for 100 years from now—a future in which the walls would be luminescent and phosphorescent to light rooms.

The seats will be one foot higher because average height will be seven feet.

Instead of the clothing as we know it, people will wear beautiful drapes in lovely colors which will heat or cool as necessary. On wrists will be bracelets to record every movement and monitor health so that at least 25 per cent of the population will live to 110 years old, he said.

Advances in nutrition will make it necessary to sleep only one hour a night, Nizer predicted.

Transistor rings on fingers will make it possible for one lady to call another lady across the room to arrange a lunch date. The other, he said, might reply, "Later. Don't interrupt me during this very interesting speech."

He predicted, however, that human nature would probably not change that much—that Darwin said that there were wild animals and tame animals and that man is a wild animal.

The real task of the next generation Nizer said isn't the exploration of space or the depths of the ocean but of the inner continents of man, "to explore the contents of our inner soul" so that we might learn to walk the earth like men.

And that, he concluded, is just the beginning.

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# Women fete Oakway artists

Several artists who are scheduled to appear with Oakway Symphony during its sixth season were feted at a "Meet the Artist" reception last week in the Birmingham home of Mrs. C. A. Harlan. Mrs. Harlan is president of the board of directors of the Oakway Symphony Society, and the affair was sponsored by the Women's Association for the Oakway Symphony.

A large crowd turned out to greet the artists, including Oakway conductor Francesco Di Biasi and his wife, and Mrs. Orville Lobb, president of the women's association.

Among the honored guests were Ruth Burczyk, who will appear with Oakway on Sunday, April 22, in concert with her daughter, Christine Allen, for a performance of Poulenc's "Concerto for Two Pianos."

Ms. Burczyk, who made her debut at the age of 16 with the Wisconsin (now Milwaukee) Symphony, has appeared extensively as soloist with many symphony orchestras.

As a treat for the gathering, she played a selection from Poulenc and two selections by Chopin.



CHARLES HEARD, director of the Redden Symphonic Choir, and Jan Rac, who will be a soloist when the choir presents Handel's "Messiah" for Oakway's Dec. 10 concert, were present.

Other special guests were Martha Welton, who will be playing Bach's "Concerto in E Minor" at the March 4 concert, and Marilyn Hedquist, a soprano who has the title role in Puccini's one act opera, "Sungilda," which is also a part of the March concert. The opera is under the direction of Alice Engram.

Ise von Alphenheim was unable to attend the reception because that day she was appearing in the weekend Schubert Festival in Detroit. The pianist is the featured artist opening the subscription concert Nov. 19.

Ms. von Alphenheim, who is private life is Mrs. Anjal Dorati, has appeared

with the Cleveland, Philadelphia and National orchestras, and has made several world tours.

In February, violinist Isidor Saslav and cellist Paul Di Biasi will play Brahms' "Double Concerto."

In April, Ernest A. Jones, who has been a frequent guest conductor with Oakway, will conduct the ballet music from Faust.

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